

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAHA 00226 081130Z

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 INR-07 L-02 /019 W

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R 080907Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL NAHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1713

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USAGO FORT BUCKNER

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E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: OKINAWA EX-GRATIA CLAIMS

REF: A. TRANSMITTAL SLIP/4/30 TO EA/J AND POL/MIL

TOKYO FORWARD POJRE-OA REPORT. OF APRIL 23

B. STATE 278668, DEC 20, 1974

SUMMARY: ARMY ENGINEERS REAL ESTATE DIVISION IS WINDING UP ITS EX-GRATIA CLAIMS PROGRAM; TIMING FOR PAYMENT IS CONSTRICTED.

ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE EXPEDITE APPROVAL PROCEDURES AND ADVISE OFFICE TO WHICH VALIDATED CLAIMS PACKAGES SHOULD BE FORWARD. END SUMMARY

1. AS INDICATED REF A, THE OKINAWA REAL ESTATE DIVISION OF

PAGE 2 RHAIBQA3231 C O N F I D E N T I A L

THE JAPAN DISTRICT ARMY ENGINEERS HAS BEEN SCHEDULED BY ITS HDQTRS TO COMPLETE THE EX-GRATIA CLAIMS PROGRAM BY MARCH 1976. THE DIVISION EXPECTS TO HAVE VALIDATED PROPERTY LISTS INVOLVING 2,800 PARCELS WITH CLEAR TITLES AND LOCAL RECIPIENTS DESIGNATED AS AN ATTORNEY-IN-FACT READY FOR SUBMISSION BY JUNE 30, 1975. IN ADDITIONAL 1,200 PARCELS OF LAND WITH DEFECTIVE TITLES WILL BE WORKED ON CONTINUOUSLY UNTIL DEC 1975; ABOUT 200 OF THESE WILL PROBABLY NEVER BE CLEARED AND THEREFORE CANNOT BE PAID.

2. IN VIEW OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF CLAIMS THAT MUST BE PAID, THE REAL ESTATE DIVISION WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN MAKING PAYMENTS AS SOON AS EACH CLAIMS HAS BEEN APPROVED IN WASHINGTON. THIS WILL  
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PAGE 02 NAHA 00226 081130Z

HAVE THE BENEFICIAL EFFECT OF ENCOURAGING CLAIMANTS WHOSE TITLES

ARE DEFECTIVE TO WORK TO CLEAR THEM UP SO THAT THEY CAN GET IN ON THE PROGRAM. MAKING PAYMENTS AS SOON AS THE CLAIMS ARE APPROVED IN WASHINGTON SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT REFLECT ADVERSELY ON THE USG, AS THE REAL ESTATE DIVISION HAS DONE ITS BEST TO VALIDATE AS MANY CLAIMS AS POSSIBLE GIVEN THE FRAGMENTARY NATURE OF RECORDED PROPERTY OWNERSHIP ON OKINAWA.

3. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF WASHINGTON APPROVAL OF VALIDATED CLAIMS

PAGE 3 RHAIBQA3231 C O N F I D E N T I A L

IS DELAYED SIGNIFICANTLY OR IF PAYMENTS DO NOT BEGIN UNTIL THE LAST CLAIMS SUBMITTED TO WASHINGTON ARE APPROVED, THE REAL ESTATE DIVISION PROBABLY WILL NOT HAVE TIME TO COMPLETE PAYMENTS INVOLVING THESE NEARLY 4,000 PARCELS BY MARCH 1976. THE DIVISION WOULD HAVE TO TURN OVER PAYMENTS TO SOME OTHER ORGANIZATION WHICH WOULD NOT HAVE THE TIME, BACKGROUND OR EXPERIENCE TO COMPLETE THE JOB SATISFACTORILY. NO OTHER MILITARY ORGANIZATION IN OKINAWA IS FAMILIAR WITH THE EX-GRATIA PROGRAM AND THE CONGEN HAS NEITHER THE STAFF NOR THE TIME TO TAKE ON THE JOB.

4. ACTION REQUESTED.

A. THAT THE CONGEN BE AUTHORIZED TO SUBMIT TO WASHINGTON AN INITIAL PACKAGE INVOLVING THE BULK OF VALIDATED CLAIMS ON OR ABOUT JULY 1, 1975;

B. THAT WE BE PERMITTED TO FORWARD ADDITIONAL CLAIMS AS THEY ARE VALIDATED BY THE REAL ESTATE DIVISION;

C. THAT WASHINGTON APPROVAL OF THESE CLAIMS BE EXPEDITED AND THAT THE REAL ESTATE DIVISION BE AUTHORIZED TO BEGIN PAYMENTS AS SOON AS EACH CLAIM HAS BEEN APPROVED; AND

D. PLEASE ADVISE WHICH OFFICE IN WASHINGTON WILL BE APPROVING VALIDATED CLAIMS SO WE WILL KNOW WHERE TO FORWARD THEM.

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** MARR, JA, US  
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